



## **Military Health System Health Care Reengineering:**

***Be an Innovator and Create the Future!***

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**Title of Initiative:** REGION 6 CONTINUING EDUCATION INITIATIVES

**Type of Initiative:** Region-wide

**Implementation Site(s):** TRICARE Southwest

**Implementation Location(s):** San Antonio, TX

**Date Submitted:** December 2001

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### ***DESCRIPTION OF INITIATIVE***

TRICARE Southwest has implemented several initiatives to provide educational opportunities and support to the Region. TRICARE Southwest and each Medical Treatment Facility (MTF) in Region 6 has been equipped with Video Teleconferencing equipment (VTC) that allows conferences to utilize verbal and visual mediums. The speakers can present from any facility with compatible equipment. TRICARE Southwest presents two VTC series that provides continuing medical (CME)/nursing education (CNE).

Population Health VTC series is presented twice a month. Topics range from population health issues, preventive screening, disease management, clinical practice guidelines, and the sharing of best practices. The Coding VTC series is presented by the Air Force Group Practice Manager who is also a Registered Health Information Administrator. Topics include evaluation and management coding, ICD-9-CM coding, procedures, Health Care Financing Administration Common Procedure Coding System, audits and aggregate data, pick lists and super bills, and using data to identify your population.

Evaluation and Management Coding Seminars were taught by the Iowa Foundation for Medical Care at the MTFs in the Region for 3.5 hours CME/4.5 hours CNE. The program focuses on fraud and abuse, new and established patients, components of E/M codes, types of histories, types of physical exams, levels of risk, and medical decision-making. TRICARE Pacific and the Air Force adopted this program.

Breast Cancer Educator Programs are developed by one of the three Breast Cancer Educators in the Region. The continuing education packages are written so that any one of the Breast Educators can teach the program at any MTF in the Region.



**Results of Initiative:**

The continuing education (CE) initiatives have provided training, education, best practices and CME/CNE for the MTFs in Region 6. Successes include the following:

- Population Health VTC series: 18 topics, 629 attendees, 786 CE hours
- Coding VTC series: 10 topics (only 4 had CE), 90 attendees, 99 CE hours
- Evaluation and Management Coding Seminars: training at 10 MTFs, 724 attendees, 3420 CE hours
- Breast Cancer Education Series: 4 topics, 14 classes, 230 attendees, 291 CE hours

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***POINT OF CONTACT (POC) INFORMATION***

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